

Research Group LiNA (Literary-Network-Analysis²): Synopsis

Character-Network-Analysis using VISIONE

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PURPOSE In an effort to complete one Master Thesis and two Bachelor Theses, the LiNA-Research-Group is working on a project to visualize and analyze character networks within selected works of Paul Heyses “*Deutscher Novellenschatz*” (1871-1876) using VISIONE.

DURATION The set duration of the research group is one year. Katharina Schuh and Evelyn Roth will be part of the research group for the whole duration (May 2015 – June 2016). Anarma Ibrakovic will join the research group until the end of March 2016.

CONTENT First steps into the field of Literary-Network-Analysis already started October 2014 in the context of a related seminar. Based on the findings, the students decided to form a research group to explore this topic even further. The research group’s goal is to extend the already existing results as well as developing their thesis; given the individual scenic networks of six novellas - displaying the characters presence and absence as well as some types of relations - reoccurring structures emerged. The meaning of these structures as potential epochal characteristics is in the center of the research group’s interest.

AGENDA The group is going to analyze and revise last semester’s findings. This includes particularly the focus on grey areas meaning scenes that were too complex to be visualized with the prior caption system. This caption system needs to be extended all around, to serve the needs of complex visualization efficiently. Given a generalized caption, last semesters networks will be reworked.

In a next step, the works embedded in the *Deutscher Novellenschatz* are going to be categorized by their epoch. The thesis of each member of the research group will focus on a specific epoch related question.

² The term LiNA was coined by Peer Trilcke in 2013.

Trilcke, Peer: “Social Network Analysis (SNA) als Methode einer textempirischen Literaturwissenschaft.” In: Philip Ajouri et al. (Hg.): *Empirie in der Literaturwissenschaft*. Münster 2013, S. 201-247.

Following these general rules in the field of character networks, the students will focus on their individual thesis, supported by an ongoing exchange among the research group. A methodically uniform approach among the developed parameters will provide homogenous results. This is important for example to compare individual networks on a larger base.

STRUCTURE In weekly meetings of 90 minutes, the group will discuss their results as well as topic related problems. Results will be posted on the research groups Wiki-Media page (interior http://www.uni-konstanz.de/HSK-Wiki/index.php?title=LiNA_%28Ibrakovic,_Schuh,_Roth%29).

Participating students:

Evelyn Roth (B.A.) / Masterstudent in *Studies in European Culture*

Katharina Schuh / Bachelorstudent in *German Literature and British and American Studies*

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